

OCT 0 9 2007

PTO/SB/68 (09-06)
Approved for use through 3/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031

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# (12) United States Patent Reed et al.

(10) Patent No.:

US 6,546,399 B1

(45) Date of Patent:

\*Apr. 8, 2003

#### (54) MULTIMEDIA SEARCH SYSTEM

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\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: 08/202,985

Int Cl7

(22) Filed: Feb. 28, 1994

(Under 37 CFR 1.47)

#### Related U.S. Application Data

| (63) | Continuation of application No. 08/113,955, filed on Aug.   |
|------|---|
| ` '  | 13, 1993, now abandoned, which is a continuation of appli-  |
|      | cation No. 07/426,917, filed on Oct. 26, 1989, now Pat. No. |
|      | 5,241,671.  |

| (31) | mi. Ci.  | *************************************** | G001 1//50 |
|------|----------|---|------------|
| (52) | U.S. Cl. |   | 707/104.1  |
| (58) | Field of | Search                                  | 707/104 1  |

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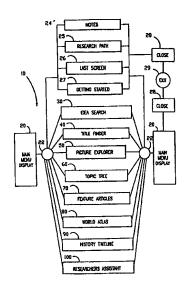
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#### (57) ABSTRACT

A database search system that retrieves multimedia information in a flexible, user friendly system. The search system uses a multimedia database consisting of text, picture, audio and animated data. That database is searched through multiple graphical and textual entry paths. Those entry paths include an idea search, a title finder search, a topic tree search, a picture explorer search, a history timeline search, a world atlas search, a researcher's assistant search, and a feature articles search.

#### 75 Claims, 20 Drawing Sheets



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